

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus comprising:

(a) a communication device for communicating with an external apparatus ~~according to~~ by a facsimile communication procedure ~~by a facsimile~~;

(b) a data processor for ~~picking up~~ obtaining image data and communication control data by decoding facsimile communication data from the external apparatus received by the communication device;

(c) a memory for storing the image data obtained by the data processor, ~~by associating~~ in association with identification data to identify the image data;

(d) an image output device for forming and outputting an image based on the image data;

(e) an identification electronic mail creating device for, when the communication control data has been obtained by the data processor, creating an identification electronic mail for demanding an notifying that the facsimile communication data has been received and prompting a receiver of the identification electronic mail to set one of a plurality of image data processing format modes for the image data, said identification electronic mail including the identification data of the image

~~data; to be set, by notifying that, when communication control data has been obtained by the data processor, facsimile communication data to be sent to a predetermined electronic mail address has been received, and also by notifying image data identification data;~~

25 ~~(f)~~ a transmission and reception device for transmitting the identification electronic mail to ~~a predetermined external terminal~~ an electronic mail address and for receiving an instruction electronic mail from an external terminal in response to the identification electronic mail, said instruction electronic mail containing the identification data of the image data and an instruction on a processing format to set one of the plurality of image data processing modes for the image data; and the identification data from the external terminal;

30 ~~(g)~~ an electronic mail processor for extracting the instruction ~~on the image data processing format and to set one of the plurality of image data processing modes and~~ the identification data of the image data from the received instruction electronic mail ~~from the external terminal;~~ and

35 a control section which controls the image forming apparatus to process the image data in accordance with the image data processing mode instructed by the instruction extracted by the electronic mail processor;

wherein the plurality of image processing modes include a terminal transmission mode and a printing mode; and

50 wherein when the terminal transmission mode is instructed by the instruction extracted by the electronic mail processor, the control section controls the image forming apparatus to transmit the image data to the external terminal, and when the printing mode is instructed by the instruction extracted by the electronic mail processor, the control section controls the image forming apparatus to output the image data by the image output device.

~~(h) an image data processor for sending to the image output device an output image data which is obtained by processing so that the image data specified according to the extracted processing format is outputted according to the processing format.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

5 a transmission table for storing an electronic mail address in association with the a transmitter of the facsimile communication data, wherein the transmitter of the facsimile communication data is identified ~~included~~ in the communication control data,

10 wherein the identification electronic mail creating device extracts the electronic mail address ~~where~~ to which the

identification electronic mail is to be sent by referring to
from the transmission table based on the transmitter of the of
the facsimile communication data identified in the communication
control data ~~to create the identification electronic mail.~~

3. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of
claim 1, further comprising:

a processing table for storing a transmitter of the
facsimile communication data ~~included in the communication~~
5 ~~control data~~, and information on with respect to whether the
image data corresponding to the communication control data should
be sent to the image output device or the memory, wherein the
transmitter of the facsimile communication data is identified in
the communication control data,

10 wherein the data processor sends the image data to a
predetermined receiver by referring to the processing table,
based on the based on the transmitter of the of the facsimile
communication data identified in the communication control data.

4. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of
claim 1, further comprising an input device for specifying a
~~voluntary~~ receiver to which ~~an~~ the identification electronic mail
is to be sent, when the identification electronic mail creating
5 device creates the identification electronic mail.

5. (Currently Amended) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a deletion device for deleting the output image data ~~output~~.

Claim 6 (Canceled).

7. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, further comprising an input device for inputting the electronic mail address to which the identification electronic mail is to be sent, when the identification electronic mail creating device creates the identification electronic mail.

8. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the identification electronic mail does not include the image data.

9. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of image processing modes include a specified destination transmission mode, and when the specified destination transmission mode is instructed by the instruction extracted by the electronic mail processor, the control section controls the image forming apparatus to transmit the image data to a

destination specified in the instruction extracted from the instruction electronic mail by the electronic mail processor.

10. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 9, wherein the specified destination is one of: (i) an electronic mail address, to which the image data is transmitted by electronic mail, and (ii) a telephone number, to which the image data is transmitted by facsimile.

11. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 9, wherein the plurality of image processing modes include a deletion mode, and when the deletion mode is instructed by the instruction extracted by the electronic mail processor, the control section controls the deletion device to delete the facsimile communication data.

12. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of image processing modes include a deletion mode, and when the deletion mode is instructed by the instruction extracted by the electronic mail processor, the control section controls the deletion device to delete the facsimile communication data.

13. (New) The image forming apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instruction in the instruction electronic mail to set the printing mode includes an instruction to print a number of copies of the image data, and when the printing mode is instructed by the instruction extracted by the electronic mail processor, control section controls the image forming apparatus to print the instructed number of copies of the image data by the image output device.

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